

## IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A method comprising:

~~detecting a user input;~~

~~in response to the detection of a user input, generating a graphical user interface before the operating system has booted;~~

receiving a password ~~an input from the user~~ through a said graphical user interface;  
and

after receiving said password, ~~input, booting the operating system, comparing said password to stored information using a graphics controller; and~~  
booting an operating system after comparing said password to stored information.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

3 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 ~~including wherein~~ generating said [[a]] graphical user interface ~~includes generating a graphical user interface~~ using said [[a]] graphics controller.

4 (Original). The method of claim 3 including storing information for generating said graphical user interface on an option memory.

5 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 3 [[1]] including using boot code running on a graphics controller to generate the graphical user interface.

6 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 3 [[1]] wherein generating a graphical user interface includes generating a graphical user interface to enable the user to input said [[a]] password.

7 (Original). The method of claim 6 wherein generating a graphical user interface includes generating an on-screen keyboard.

8 (Original). The method of claim 1 including receiving inputs from the user through the graphical user interface without a keyboard.

9 (Original). The method of claim 1 including authenticating a user and allowing the operating system to boot if the user has been authenticated.

10 (Original). The method of claim 9 including receiving a password entered without a keyboard using the graphical user interface.

11 (Currently Amended). A computer readable medium storing instructions that enables a processor-based system graphics controller to:

detect a user input;

generate a graphical user interface before the operating system has booted;

receive a password an input from the user through a said graphical user interface;

and

after receipt of said password, but before an operating system is booted, input, boot the operating system, compare said password to stored information using a graphics controller.

Claim 12 (Canceled).

13 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based system~~ to generate a graphical user interface using a graphics controller.

14 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 13 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based system~~ to generate said graphical user interface on an option memory.

15 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based system~~ to use the boot code running on a graphics controller to generate the graphical user interface.

16 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based-system~~ to generate a graphical user interface to enable the user to input a password.

17 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 16 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based-system~~ to generate an on-screen keyboard.

18 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based-system~~ to receive inputs from the user through the graphical user interface without a keyboard.

19 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based-system~~ to authenticate a user and allow the operating system to boot if the user has been authenticated.

20 (Currently Amended). The medium article of claim 19 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable the controller ~~processor-based-system~~ to receive a password entered without a keyboard using the graphical user interface.

Claims 21-25 (Canceled).